



Town of Groton, Connecticut

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Town Clerk (860)441-6640
Town Manager
(860)441-6630

Meeting Minutes - **Draft**

Town Council

Mayor Harry A. Watson, Councilors Dean Antipas, Kathryn M. Brown-Tracy, Bruce S. Flax, Catherine Kolnaski, Deborah B. Monteiro, Frank O'Beirne, Jr., Rita M. Schmidt, and Paulann H. Sheets

Tuesday, August 25, 2009

6:00 PM

Town Hall Annex - Community Room 1

SPECIAL MEETING

I. ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m by Mayor Watson.

Members Present: Mayor Watson, Councilor Antipas, Councilor Brown-Tracy, Councilor Flax, Councilor Kolnaski, Councilor Monteiro, Councilor O'Beirne, Jr., Councilor Schmidt and Councilor Sheets

Also present were Town Manager Mark Oefinger, Town Clerk Barbara Tarbox, and Executive Assistant Nicki Bresnayan.

II. SALUTE TO THE FLAG

The Salute to the Flag was led by Mayor Watson.

III. CONSENT CALENDAR

a. Approval of Minutes

2009-0213 Approval of Minutes (Town Council)

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the Town Council meeting of August 4, 2009 are hereby accepted and approved.

This Matter was Adopted on the Consent Calendar.

b. Administrative Items

2009-0208 Special Trust Fund Contributions

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING CONTRIBUTIONS TO SPECIAL TRUST FUNDS

RESOLVED, that the Town Council hereby accepts contributions to the Town as follows:

Susan Lyons - \$20.00 - Arts Cafe Miscellaneous
Anne Philbrick - \$20.00 - Arts Cafe Miscellaneous
Daniel Potter - \$20.00 - Arts Cafe Miscellaneous
Shari Rosenthal - \$20.00 - Arts Cafe Miscellaneous
Ida Aguiar - \$20.00 - Arts Cafe Miscellaneous
Clare Billing - \$20.00 - Arts Cafe Miscellaneous
Arthur Fox - \$20.00 - Arts Cafe Miscellaneous
Amy Laidlaw - \$20.00 - Arts Cafe Miscellaneous
Patricia Oat-Judge - \$30.00 - Arts Cafe Miscellaneous
Richard Cook - \$50.00 - Arts Cafe Miscellaneous
Nancy D'Estang - \$50.00 - Arts Cafe Miscellaneous
Vera Leavy - \$50.00 - Arts Cafe Miscellaneous
Sylvia Leland Lynch - \$50.00 - Arts Cafe Miscellaneous
Emily Lynch - \$50.00 - Arts Cafe Miscellaneous
Thomas Portante - \$50.00 - Arts Cafe Miscellaneous
Patricia Sparkman - \$50.00 - Arts Cafe Miscellaneous
Robert MacBain - \$75.00 - Arts Cafe Miscellaneous

Linda Feinberg - \$100.00 - Arts Cafe Miscellaneous
April Dow Michas - \$100.00 - Arts Cafe Miscellaneous
Alicia Pena - \$100.00 - Arts Cafe Miscellaneous
Sidney Van Zandt - \$50.00 - Arts Cafe Miscellaneous
David G. Williams - \$50.00 - Arts Cafe Miscellaneous
Barbara Winters - \$50.00 - Arts Cafe Miscellaneous
Elissa Wright - \$50.00 - Arts Cafe Miscellaneous
Jane Brannegan - \$250.00 - Arts Cafe Miscellaneous
Patricia Kitchings - \$250.00 - Arts Cafe Miscellaneous
John Sutter - \$250.00 - Arts Cafe Miscellaneous
Michael Sheets - \$50.00 - Arts Cafe Miscellaneous

This Matter was Adopted on the Consent Calendar.

c. Deletions from the Town Council Referral List

2008-0186 Reservoir and Watershed Commission

This Matter was Deleted from Referral List - No further action on the Consent Calendar.

2009-0067 Merritt Farm Open Space

This Matter was Deleted from Referral List - No further action on the Consent Calendar.

2009-0088 Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Funding

This Matter was Deleted from Referral List - No further action on the Consent Calendar.

2009-0154 Grove Avenue Subdivision/Mardie Lane

This Matter was Deleted from Referral List - Action to be taken on the Consent Calendar.

2009-0185 Explanatory Text for Thames Street Rehabilitation Referendum

This Matter was Deleted from Referral List - Action to be taken on the Consent Calendar.

2009-0187 Results of Operations - FYE 2009

This Matter was Deleted from Referral List - No further action on the Consent Calendar.

2009-0193 Reappointment of Barbara Block to Inland Wetlands Agency

This Matter was Deleted from Referral List - Action to be taken on the Consent Calendar.

2009-0194 Reappointment of Dorothy Eames to Community Development Advisory Committee

This Matter was Deleted from Referral List - Action to be taken on the Consent Calendar.

2009-0195 Reappointment of Catherine Talbot to Harbor Management Commission

This Matter was Deleted from Referral List - Action to be taken on the Consent Calendar.

2009-0196 Reappointment of Elaine Cole to Historic District Commission

This Matter was Deleted from Referral List - Action to be taken on the Consent Calendar.

2009-0197 Reappointment of Robert Ashworth to Inland Wetlands Agency

This Matter was Deleted from Referral List - Action to be taken on the Consent Calendar.

2009-0198 Reappointment of David Scott to Inland Wetlands Agency

This Matter was Deleted from Referral List - Action to be taken on the Consent Calendar.

2009-0199 Reappointment of Catherine Kolnaski to Ledge Light Health District Board of Directors

This Matter was Deleted from Referral List - Action to be taken on the Consent Calendar.

2009-0200 Reappointment of James Loughlin to Cable TV Advisory Council

This Matter was Deleted from Referral List - Action to be taken on the Consent Calendar.

2009-0201 Reappointment of Carol Pratt to the Retirement Board

This Matter was Deleted from Referral List - Action to be taken on the Consent Calendar.

2009-0202 Reappointment of Mary Lou Smith to Southeastern Connecticut Water Authority Advisory Board

This Matter was Deleted from Referral List - Action to be taken on the Consent Calendar.

2009-0203 Reappointment of Paulann Sheets to Southeastern Connecticut Water Authority Advisory Board

This Matter was Deleted from Referral List - Action to be taken on the Consent Calendar.

2009-0204 Reappointment of June DeCarlo to Fair Rent Commission

This Matter was Deleted from Referral List - Action to be taken on the Consent Calendar.

2009-0205 Reappointment of Mariellen French to Zoning Commission

This Matter was Deleted from Referral List - Action to be taken on the Consent Calendar.

2009-0207 Steamboat Wharf Dredging - Update

This Matter was Deleted from Referral List - Action to be taken on the Consent Calendar.

2009-0214 U.S. Department of Energy Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG)

This Matter was Deleted from Referral List - Action to be taken on the Consent Calendar.

Passed The Consent Calendar

A motion was made by Councilor Schmidt, seconded by Councilor Brown-Tracy, to adopt the Consent Calendar, including all the preceding items marked as having been adopted on the Consent Calendar.
The motion carried by the following vote:

Votes: In Favor: 7 - Mayor Watson, Councilor Antipas, Councilor Flax, Councilor Monteiro, Councilor O'Beirne, Jr., Councilor Schmidt and Councilor Sheets
Abstain: 2 - Councilor Brown-Tracy and Councilor Kolnaski

IV. NEW BUSINESS

2009-0154 Grove Avenue Subdivision/Mardie Lane

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ADDITIONAL PAVING FOR DRAINAGE CONTROL ON MARDIE LANE

WHEREAS, the Department of Public Works will soon begin the repaving, as planned, of Lestertown Road and Starr Hill Road, and

WHEREAS, successful and lasting results from repaving Starr Hill Road will require better control of storm water runoff from Mardie Lane, and

WHEREAS, the estimated cost of additional paving and drainage related work is approximately \$8,000, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Council authorizes the Department of Public Works to extend its paving effort beyond the originally budgeted paving plan, so as to effectuate stormwater runoff improvements on Mardie Lane.

A motion was made by Mayor Watson, seconded by Councilor Kolnaski, that this matter be Adopted.

The motion carried unanimously

2009-0185 Explanatory Text for Thames Street Rehabilitation Referendum

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PREPARATION OF EXPLANATORY TEXT FOR AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$10,725,000 FOR THAMES STREET REHABILITATION AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUE OF BONDS AND NOTES IN THE SAME AMOUNT TO FINANCE SAID APPROPRIATION

WHEREAS, it is in the best interests of the Town of Groton that Explanatory Text concerning the referendum question on the Thames Street Rehabilitation ordinance that will be on the ballot on

November 3, 2009 be prepared and distributed to voters, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Council authorizes such Explanatory Text to be prepared by the Town Clerk, approved by the Town Attorney, and distributed to the voters of the Town.

A motion was made by Councilor Sheets, seconded by Councilor Kolnaski, that this matter be Adopted.

The motion carried unanimously

A motion to approve Resolutions 2009-0193 Reappointment of Barbara Block to Inland Wetlands Agency, 2009-0194 Reappointment of Dorothy Eames to Community Development Advisory Committee, 2009-0195 Reappointment of Catherine Talbot to Harbor Management Commission, 2009-0196 Reappointment of Elaine Cole to Historic District Commission, 2009-0197 Reappointment of Robert Ashworth to Inland Wetlands Agency, 2009-0198 Reappointment of David Scott to Inland Wetlands Agency, 2009-0199 Reappointment of Catherine Kolnaski to Ledge Light Health District Board of Directors, 2009-0200 Reappointment of James Loughlin to Cable TV Advisory Council, 2009-0201 Reappointment of Carol Pratt to the Retirement Board, 2009-0202 Reappointment of Mary Lou Smith to Southeastern Connecticut Water Authority Advisory Board, 2009-0203 Reappointment to Paulann Sheets to Southeastern Connecticut Water Authority Advisory Board, 2009-0204 Reappointment of June DeCarlo to Fair Rent Commission, and 2009-0205 Reappointment of Mariellen French to Zoning Commission was made by Councilor O'Beirne, seconded by Councilor Brown-Tracy and so voted unanimously.

2009-0193 Reappointment of Barbara Block to Inland Wetlands Agency

RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING BARBARA BLOCK TO THE INLAND WETLANDS AGENCY

RESOLVED, that Barbara Block, 142 Bay View Avenue, Mystic is hereby reappointed to the Inland Wetlands Agency for a term expiring 12/31/10.

A motion was made by Councilor O'Beirne, Jr., seconded by Councilor Brown-Tracy, that this matter be Adopted.

The motion carried unanimously

2009-0194 Reappointment of Dorothy Eames to Community Development Advisory Committee

RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING DOROTHY EAMES TO THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

RESOLVED, that Dorothy Eames, 83 Pine Island Road, is hereby reappointed to the Community Development Advisory Committee for a term ending 02/07/12.

A motion was made by Councilor O'Beirne, Jr., seconded by Councilor Brown-Tracy, that this matter be Adopted.

The motion carried unanimously

2009-0195 Reappointment of Catherine Talbot to Harbor Management Commission

RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING CATHERINE TALBOT TO THE HARBOR MANAGEMENT COMMISSION

RESOLVED, that Catherine Talbot, 10 Florence Drive, Mystic, is reappointed as an alternate member to the Harbor Management Commission, for a term ending 09/01/12.

A motion was made by Councilor O'Beirne, Jr., seconded by Councilor Brown-Tracy, that this matter be Adopted.

The motion carried unanimously

2009-0196 Reappointment of Elaine Cole to Historic District Commission

RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING ELAINE COLE TO THE HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

RESOLVED, that Elaine M. Cole, 17 Burrows Street, Mystic, is hereby reappointed to the Historic District Commission for a term ending 12/31/12.

A motion was made by Councilor O'Beirne, Jr., seconded by Councilor Brown-Tracy, that this matter be Adopted.

The motion carried unanimously

2009-0197 Reappointment of Robert Ashworth to Inland Wetlands Agency

RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING ROBERT ASHWORTH TO THE INLAND WETLANDS AGENCY

RESOLVED, that Robert L. Ashworth, 39 Whitney Road, Mystic, is hereby reappointed to the Inland Wetlands Agency for a term expiring 12/31/10.

A motion was made by Councilor O'Beirne, Jr., seconded by Councilor Brown-Tracy, that this matter be Adopted.

The motion carried unanimously

2009-0198 Reappointment of David Scott to Inland Wetlands Agency

RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING DAVID SCOTT TO THE INLAND WETLANDS AGENCY

RESOLVED, that David R.Scott, 191 Pequot Avenue, Mystic is hereby reappointed to the Inland Wetlands Agency for a term expiring 12/31/10.

A motion was made by Councilor O'Beirne, Jr., seconded by Councilor Brown-Tracy, that this matter be Adopted.

The motion carried unanimously

2009-0199 Reappointment of Catherine Kolnaski to Ledge Light Health District Board of Directors

RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING CATHERINE KOLNASKI TO THE LEDGE LIGHT HEALTH DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

RESOLVED, that Catherine Kolnaski, 26 Miner Street, is reappointed to the Ledge Light Health District Board of Directors for a term ending 11/10/10.

A motion was made by Councilor O'Beirne, Jr., seconded by Councilor Brown-Tracy, that this matter be Adopted.

The motion carried unanimously

2009-0200 Reappointment of James Loughlin to Cable TV Advisory Council

RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING JAMES J. LOUGHLIN, JR. TO THE CABLE TV ADVISORY COUNCIL

RESOLVED, that James J. Loughlin, Jr., 35 West Mystic Avenue, Mystic, is reappointed to the Cable TV Advisory Council for a term ending 7/1/11.

A motion was made by Councilor O'Beirne, Jr., seconded by Councilor Brown-Tracy, that this matter be Adopted.

The motion carried unanimously

2009-0201 Reappointment of Carol Pratt to the Retirement Board

RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING CAROL PRATT TO THE RETIREMENT BOARD

RESOLVED that the Town Council reappoints Carol W. Pratt as a participant member to the Retirement Board for a term expiring 12/31/11.

A motion was made by Councilor O'Beirne, Jr., seconded by Councilor Brown-Tracy, that this matter be Adopted.

The motion carried unanimously

2009-0202 Reappointment of Mary Lou Smith to Southeastern Connecticut Water Authority Advisory

Board

RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING MARY LOU SMITH TO THE SOUTHEASTERN CONNECTICUT WATER AUTHORITY ADVISORY BOARD

RESOLVED, that Mary Lou Smith, 326 Judson Avenue, Mystic is hereby reappointed to the Southeastern Connecticut Water Authority Advisory Board for a term expiring 09/01/11.

A motion was made by Councilor O'Beirne, Jr., seconded by Councilor Brown-Tracy, that this matter be Adopted.

The motion carried unanimously

2009-0203

Reappointment of Paulann Sheets to Southeastern Connecticut Water Authority Advisory Board

RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING PAULANN SHEETS TO THE SOUTHEASTERN CONNECTICUT WATER AUTHORITY ADVISORY BOARD

RESOLVED, that Paulann Sheets, 87 Neptune Drive, is hereby reappointed to the Southeastern Connecticut Water Authority Advisory Board for a term expiring 9/1/11.

A motion was made by Councilor O'Beirne, Jr., seconded by Councilor Brown-Tracy, that this matter be Adopted.

The motion carried unanimously

2009-0204

Reappointment of June DeCarlo to Fair Rent Commission

RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING JUNE DECARLO TO THE FAIR RENT COMMISSION

RESOLVED, that June DeCarlo, 16 Eastwood Road, is hereby reappointed to the Fair Rent Commission, for a term expiring 7/01/12.

A motion was made by Councilor O'Beirne, Jr., seconded by Councilor Brown-Tracy, that this matter be Adopted.

The motion carried unanimously

2009-0205

Reappointment of Mariellen French to Zoning Commission

RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING MARIELLEN FRENCH TO THE ZONING COMMISSION

RESOLVED, that Mariellen French, 12 Little Gull Lane, Mystic, is reappointed to the Zoning Commission for a term ending 12/31/13.

A motion was made by Councilor O'Beirne, Jr., seconded by Councilor Brown-Tracy, that this matter be Adopted.

The motion carried unanimously

2009-0207

Steamboat Wharf Dredging - Update

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING TOWN PARTICIPATION IN A DREDGING PROJECT AT STEAMBOAT WHARF

WHEREAS, the Connecticut Department of Transportation (DOT) holds a permit from the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) for dredging in the Mystic River adjacent to Steamboat Wharf, and

WHEREAS, the Town Council has, in previous resolutions, authorized the use of Town of Groton employees, equipment and funds to perform dredging at Steamboat Wharf, and

WHEREAS, on February 6, 2008, in resolution No. 2006-0298, the Town Council reaffirmed its authorization for the expenditure of \$13,800 in unobligated funds that were previously appropriated specifically for dredging at Steamboat Wharf, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Manager and the Department of Public Works may participate in a

joint dredging project with DOT at Steamboat Wharf and may expend an amount not to exceed the \$13,800 that was previously appropriated.

A motion was made by Councilor Monteiro, seconded by Councilor Kolnaski, that this matter be Adopted.

The motion carried unanimously

2009-0214

U.S. Department of Energy Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG)

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING GRANT APPLICATION FOR ENERGY EFFICIENCY STUDIES OR PROJECTS

WHEREAS, the Task Force on Climate Change and Sustainable Community has recommended that the Town seek and use grants for various purposes related to energy conservation, and

WHEREAS, the Town of Groton has qualified for a one-time-only availability of state or federal grants of \$147,500 to \$170,000 for energy conservation plans and projects, with no matching funds from the town being required in either case, and

WHEREAS, funding may be obtained for several desirable and useful purposes, such as calculating an energy footprint for the Town, retrofitting one or more buildings for energy efficiency, and development of an energy efficiency and conservation strategy and action plan, and

WHEREAS, the deadline for funding applications is soon approaching, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Manager may prepare and submit a grant application to the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) or the Connecticut Office of Policy and Management (OPM), depending on the outcome of the Town's recent appeal to DOE.

A motion was made by Councilor Sheets, seconded by Councilor Schmidt, that this matter be Adopted.

Councilor Sheets stated that the Task Force on Climate Change and Sustainable Community is recommending an energy audit of Town buildings and schools to identify needs and priorities. These items will be addressed in phases utilizing supplemental funding.

The Town Manager reminded Councilors that Chairman Steever of the Task Force identified a number of projects, including establishment of a baseline, in a letter to the Council. Mr. Oefinger then noted that there has been no definitive answer from the Department of Energy (DOE) regarding the Town's appeal, and the DOE has requested additional information regarding that appeal.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Votes: In Favor: 8 - Mayor Watson, Councilor Brown-Tracy, Councilor Flax, Councilor Kolnaski, Councilor Monteiro, Councilor O'Beirne, Jr., Councilor Schmidt and Councilor Sheets
Opposed: 1 - Councilor Antipas

V. ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn at 6:20 p.m. was made by Councilor Kolnaski, seconded by Councilor Monteiro and so voted unanimously.

Attest:

*Barbara Tarbox, Town Clerk
Clerk of the Council*

Nicki Bresnyan, Executive Assistant